

REMARKS

The Office Action dated June 4, 2003 has been received and carefully studied.

The Examiner objects to claim 3 under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c) as being an improper multiple dependent claim. By the accompanying amendment, claim 3 has been amended by deleting the terminology "any one of".

The Examiner rejects claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner states that it is unclear what is being excluded by the proviso in claim 1. By the accompanying amendment, claim 1 has been amended to delete the proviso. With respect to claim 3, the term "type" in line 2 of the claim has been deleted by the accompanying amendment. Claims 4-8 have been canceled.

The Examiner rejects claims 4-7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Misawa et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,446,135. The Examiner states that Misawa et al. disclose the water soluble azo dye (formula (1) therein) where X as hydrogen denotes a free acid.

By the accompanying amendment, claims 4-7 have been canceled.

The Examiner rejects claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Misawa et al. The Examiner considers that it would have been obvious to have appended an amine end group to the -NHCO- group-containing benzene ring of Misawa et al.

By the accompanying amendment, claim 1 has been amended by limiting A in formula (1) to formula (3) and B to formula (5). Misawa et al. do not disclose or suggest the polyvinyl alcohol polarizing film containing the dye of formula (1) as now set forth in amended claim 1. It is believed that the amendment overcomes the rejection.

The Examiner rejects claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Merrill et al. in view of Misawa et al. The Examiner states that Merrill et al. disclose a color liquid crystal


projector with a dichroic polarizer which has a polyvinyl film containing an azo dichroic dye. The Examiner admits that Merrill et al. do not disclose the specific azo dye claimed, by cites Misawa et al. for its disclosure of the dye. The Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to have used the polarizing plate of Misawa et al. as the dichroic polarizer in the invention of Merrill et al. to obtain a liquid crystal projector with a polarizer which provides the desired negligible average light transmittance for the crossed state at 520 nm to 580 nm to serve as a green channel.

By the accompanying amendment, claim 8 has been canceled.

The remaining prior art is believed to have been properly not relied upon in rejecting any claim.

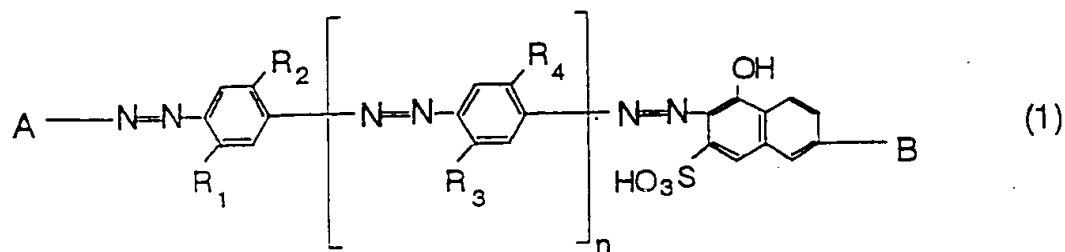
Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing.

Respectfully submitted,

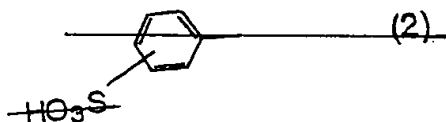

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Listing of Claims

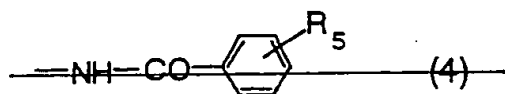
1. (Currently amended) A polyvinyl alcohol type polarizing film containing, in a substrate for the polarizing film, a water soluble dye represented by the following formula (1) in the form of a free acid:



~~{where A represents the following formula (2)}~~

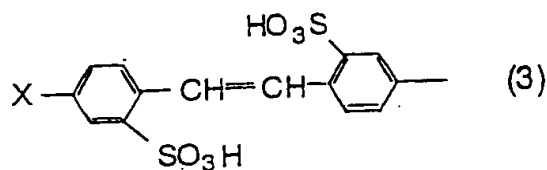


~~B represents the following formula (4) when A represents the formula (2);~~

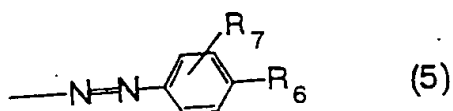


~~and n is 1, R₅ in the formula (4) represents an amino group or a hydroxyl group, or~~

wherein A represents the following formula (3)



~~where wherein~~ X represents a nitro group or an amino group, B represents the following formula (5) ~~when A represents the formula (3):~~



Amended

~~and n is 0 or 1~~ ~~where wherein~~ R₆ represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl group, substituted or unsubstituted amino group, methyl group, ethyl group, methoxy group or ethoxy group, R₇ represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl group, substituted or unsubstituted amino group, methyl group, ethyl group, methoxy group or ethoxy group in the formula (5), and n is 0 or 1, and R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ each independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl group, ethyl group, methoxy group, ethoxy group and acetyl amino group, ~~on the proviso of excluding the case where all of R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ are methyl group or methoxy group and the case where R₁ and R₃ are methyl group and R₂ and R₄ are methoxy group when n is 1, A represents the formula (2) and B represents the formula (4)~~ or a copper complex salt dye thereof.

2. (Currently amended) A polyvinyl alcohol type polarizing film as defined in claim 1, containing at least one of the water soluble dye

represented by the formula (1) or the copper complex salt thereof
and at least one of organic dyes other than [[above]] said water
soluble dye or said copper complex salt thereof.

3. (Currently amended) A polyvinyl alcohol [[type]] polarizing
plate having a protective film on the surface of the
polyvinyl alcohol [[type]] polarizing film as defined in ~~any~~
~~one of~~ claim 1 or 2.

4. (canceled)

5. (canceled)

6. (canceled)

7. (canceled)

8. (canceled)